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HANDLING INDICATOR

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TO : Amembassy SANTO DOMINGO

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FROM : Department of State

DATE:

SUBJECT : Law of the Sea

REF : Santo Domingo's A-101 (April 24, 1971)

Item 7 of the referenced Airgram reports that Carlos Sanchez y Sanchez, President of the Dominican Consejo Nacional de Fronteras, suggested at a meeting of the National Development Commission (CND) that the Dominican Republic extend the limits of its territorial sea to a distance of sixty miles, in order to prevent pollution and protect marine life.

In view of the vital importance which the United States Government places on forestalling unilateral assertions of jurisdiction over the high seas, the Embassy is requested: (1) to forward a copy of Sanchez y Sanchez's remarks, if a transcript exists; (2) to ascertain in a routine, low-level manner whether any significant sentiment within the Dominican government favors extension of jurisdiction over waters now considered high seas; and (3) to report any such sentiment and further developments to the Department on a priority basis.

ROGERS

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Drafted by: L/OA:WRSalisbury:cek

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Phone No: 27969

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